

Applicant: Pekka Rytty
Application Serial No.: 10/825,857
Filing Date: April 16, 2004
Docket No.: 187-77
Reply to Non-Final Office Action mailed April 13, 2006
Page 9 of 11

REMARKS

Pursuant to the non-final Office Action mailed April 13, 2006, which has been carefully considered, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration. To further the prosecution of this application, each of the issues raised in the non-final Office Action is addressed herein.

Claims 1-4 and 6-17 are currently pending in this application, of which Claims 1, 6, 9, 10, 16, and 17 are independent claims. By this Amendment, Claim 5 has been cancelled, Claims 1, 6, 9, and 10 have been amended, and Claims 11-17 have been added to accept the subject matter deemed allowable by the Examiner. The application as now presented is believed to be in allowable condition.

A. Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant notes with appreciation that at page 5 of the Office Action Claims 5 and 6 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base and any intervening claims. Accordingly, while not acceding to the propriety of any claim rejections over prior art set forth in the Office Action, Applicant has amended the claims to accept the subject matter deemed allowable by the Examiner to expedite prosecution of this application towards allowance.

Specifically, Claims 1, 9, and 10 have been amended to incorporate the subject matter of Claim 5, which was indicated as allowable, and Claim 5 has been cancelled. Similarly, Claim 6 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of Claim 1 and new Claims 16 and 17 have been added to incorporate the subject matter of Claim 6, which was indicated as allowable. Thus, Claims 1-4 and 6-17 are now in condition for allowance.

Applicant: Pekka Rytty
Application Serial No.: 10/825,857
Filing Date: April 16, 2004
Docket No.: 187-77
Reply to Non-Final Office Action mailed April 13, 2006
Page 10 of 11

B. Claim Objections under 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1, 4, 9, and 10 were rejected as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,295,472 to Adams (*Adams*). The rejection of Claims 1, 4, 9, and 10 has been rendered moot by the amendments submitted herewith. These amendments were made solely to expedite prosecution of this application towards allowance by accepting subject matter deemed allowable by the Examiner. Applicant does not necessarily concede that the foregoing rejections are proper and reserves the right to file one or more related applications directed to the subject matter of the claims prior to the amendments herein.

C. Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 2 and 3 were rejected as being unpatentable over *Adams* in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,120,294 to Wolfe, and Claims 7 and 8 were rejected as being unpatentable over *Adams* in view of U.S. Patent No. 3,826,246 to Raddi et al. It is also submitted that these rejections are rendered moot by the amendments herein which were solely made to expedite prosecution of this application towards allowance by accepting subject matter deemed allowable by the Examiner.

Applicant submits that Claims 2, 3, 4, 7, and 8, which depend from Claim 1; and Claims 11 - 15, which depend from Claim 6 are patentable over the art of record by virtue of their dependency from Claims 1 and 6, respectively. Further, Applicant submits that Claims 2, 3, 4, 7, 8, and 11-15 define patentable subject matter in their own right. Therefore, it is respectfully requested that the rejection of Claims 1, 4, 9, and 10 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) and the rejection of Claims 2, 3, 7, and 8 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Conclusion

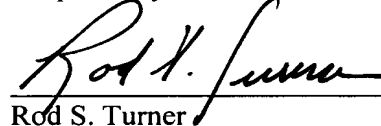
Entry of new Claims 11-17 and the amendments to Claims 1, 6, 9, and 10; favorable consideration of new Claims 11-17, and Claims 1, 6, 9, and 10, as amended; favorable

Applicant: Pekka Rytty
Application Serial No.: 10/825,857
Filing Date: April 16, 2004
Docket No.: 187-77
Reply to Non-Final Office Action mailed April 13, 2006
Page 11 of 11

reconsideration of Claims 2, 3, 4, 7, and 8; and allowance of pending Claims 1-4 and 6-17 are solicited.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, this application should now be in condition for allowance. A notice to this effect is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes, after this amendment, that the application is not in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the Applicant's attorney at the telephone number provided below to discuss any outstanding issues relating to the allowability of the application.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Rod S. Turner", is written over a horizontal line.

Rod S. Turner
Registration No.: 38,639
Attorney for Applicant

HOFFMANN & BARON, LLP
6900 Jericho Turnpike
Syosset, New York 11791
(516) 822-3550
RST:jp